

The Two

Engineer laughs at friend, "professor"
he scorns as naive. Both to grad school.

At that commencement finds more to
laugh about: disparate salaries.
"You'll starve!" Rich seems

easy for all buying
onto paths advised,
aka good boys and girls.

But engineer's coy career moves
soon after into fits and starts,
plus layoffs. After one of these,

working in a shoe store, hits
young Prof for loan. Skip way

ahead, retired. Professor that is.
Engineer did escape retail for ex-
ecutive slots. Latest to India so he

sells rugs presently. Voting
encore for those who pulled one
from under him, again encore.

Proclaims those who screw him,
an American thing. Anyway,

incomes in 30 working years about the same.
Lifetime total? Engineer, sans pension, spas-
modically cashing hodgepodge funds to pay
murderous debts. Prof lightyear ahead. Majored

in literature, what he truly loved. Wasn't
supposed to work out, moongazing at
real tough world.